

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01302 050551Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5597

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SEOUL 1302

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 1.)

PLEASE DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA QUESTION AT THE UN: CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 42834, (B) USUN 660, (C) SEOUL 1227

WELLINGTON PASS HABIB

1. EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF ROKG POSITION BASED ON REF C AND OTHER CONVERSATIONS IS THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO FIGHT HARD IN THEIR OWN DEFENSE BUT WANT TO SELECT MOST ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION FROM WHICH TO FIGHT. ROKG DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITIES OF LOSING VOTE, PARTICULARLY ON BASIS OF SAME RESOLUTION AS LAST YEAR. IN THIS CONNECTION THEIR ASSESSMENT IS SOMEWHAT GLOOMY. THEY HAVE NOT OUTLINED THIS TO TU IN DETBSL HOWEVER AND WE BELIEVE THEY WOULD CONSIDER OTHER ASSESSMENTS.

2. WE SHARE DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN ABOUT PESSIMISTIC ROKG ASSESSMENT AND SCENARIO THEY HAVE EVOLVED FROM IT. ROKG AND US SHOULD AT MINIMUM ADOPT POSITIVE JOINT APPROACH IN FIRST CORE GROUP MEETING WHICH INVITES OPEN DISCUSSION

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 01302 050551Z

AND AVOIDS FOSTERING NEGATIVE ATMOSPHERE WHICH WOULD PRE-

DETERMINE PESSIMISTIC ASSESSMENT FROM CORE GROUP AND
PRECLUDE CONSIDERATION ALL OPTIONS. THIS IS LOGICAL WAY
TO BEGIN ON THE FACE OF IT, AND WE BELIEVE ROKG CAN BE
CONVINCED OF THIS.

3. TO HELP CONVINCE THEM IT WOULD BE USEDIL IF EMBASSY
COULD HAVE AND CONVEY TO PAK SOONEST US ASSESSMENT OF
LIKELY VOTE OUTCOME WHICH FORMS BASIS FOR USG OPTIMISM ON
FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.
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